

Corporate Counsel Organization Highlights

WMACCA Wins ACC 2006 Large Chapter Of The Year Honors

The Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) honored the WMACCA chapter as Outstanding Large Chapter of the Year at ACC's 2006 Annual Meeting last month in San Diego. This was the second year in a row that WMACCA had won Large Chapter of the Year honors, and the third time in the past six years.

The award recognizes ACC chapters that demonstrate commitment to member services and contributions to the association and the legal community. Selection criteria include active promotion of member involvement and overall excellence in meeting members' needs. The large chapter category includes chapters with more than 750 members.

WMACCA, now the largest ACC chapter with 1,500 members from more than 500 corporations and private-sector organizations, was selected for its membership growth and retention (and the growth of its service area into all of Virginia), its strong line-up of educational programs and networking events, and its special projects, including the Corporate Scholars Program that places law students in summer internships at member companies, its 25th Anniversary celebration and creation of the Corporate Counsel Awards, outreach to law schools, advocacy for the profession, and its public relations initiative.



Eric Reicin



Marian Block

With the rise of in-house counsel members in its service area of DC, Virginia and suburban Maryland, WMACCA has greatly enhanced its offerings of programs and networking opportunities. Eric D. Reicin, 2006 WMACCA President and Vice President and Associate General Counsel at Sallie Mae noted, "In just the past few years, we have nearly tripled our substantive law committees and doubled our educational and skill building offerings to more than 60 CLEs this year. We also have taken concrete steps this year to improve our outreach to law schools, our advocacy work and our public relations efforts."

The award covers the period from April 2005 through April 2006, when both Marian S. Block, Vice President and Associate General Counsel of Lockheed Martin Corporation, and Mr. Reicin served as WMACCA presidents.

Richard Wolf, President
And the Board of Directors
Of New York Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel

Invite ACC Members, Patrons, Supporters and Friends
To the Chapter's Annual Meeting, Cocktail Reception and
Distinguished Service Awards Ceremony

Celebrating *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel*
and

Thomas Baxter, General Counsel,
Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Please join us on
Thursday, November 9
Cocktails at 6 p.m. Election and Awards at 7 p.m.

University Club
One West 54th Street
New York, New York

Program:

Annual Meeting to Elect Board of Directors

Award to Martha Driver, Publisher of *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel* for extraordinary service to the in-house bar in providing relevant articles and information for this unique practice bar

Award to Thomas Baxter, for his leadership as President and the production of the DVD Corporate Professional Responsibility

To RSVP, please contact Audrey Greenberg, Executive Director, Greater New York Chapter, Association of Corporate Counsel at accagny@acca.com by November 7.

Letter From The President Of The Georgia Chapter Of The Association Of Corporate Counsel

To The Readers Of *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel*:



Our chapter's September calendar featured a wonderful CLE program uniquely focused on in-house counsel and a terrific outreach event to support an all-volunteer community resource dedicated to providing clothing, toys and basic infant equipment to foster care families and foster children. Hosted by Ford & Harrison LLP, the CLE program focused on hot topics and trends in employment litigation. Discussion explored the implications of:

- the pros and cons of seeking jury trial waivers and class action waivers from employees;
- the recent Supreme Court case adopting an expansive definition of Title VII retaliation;
- blogging guidelines and policies in the workplace;
- recent developments in EEOC compliance;
- pre-employment medical testing; and
- unconscious bias as a basis for legal liability.

Part of ACC's National Day of Service, our outreach program entailed a work day at the Foster Care Support Foundation. Our chapter's enthusiastic group of volunteers prepared packages to be mailed to foster children throughout the state of Georgia.

Our chapter's October calendar featured a program on arbitration and litigation hosted by Morris Manning and Martin, LLP.

Our calendar of upcoming events includes a series of CLE lunch programs. Our November 14 program on legal strategies to deal with an aging workforce is being hosted by Elarbee, Thompson, Sapp & Wilson, LLP. Gorby Reeves & Peters, P.C. is hosting our December 12 program on third-party criminal acts and liability.

In-house counsel in Georgia can learn about our exciting upcoming programs and events in any of a variety of ways. They can bookmark our chapter's home page at www.acca.com/php/chapters/index.php?chapter=georgia, or they can subscribe to our chapter's electronic news feed, or they can contact any of our board members who are listed at http://member.acca.com/4DLink/4dcgi/chapters/board.html?Action=GetChapter&W_ChapterCode=ACCA*19.

We look forward to hearing from you and welcome your ideas and suggestions for how our chapter can continue to best target its resources to meeting the unique needs of in-house counsel.

Sincerely,
Teresa Kennedy

Partners Notes

Former Assistant District Attorney Joins Ballard Spahr In Philadelphia

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP has announced that Gina M. Smith has joined the firm as of counsel in the White Collar Litigation Group in the Philadelphia office.

Prior to joining Ballard Spahr, Ms. Smith served for 18 years in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office as an assistant district attorney responsible for the investigation and prosecution of a wide range of high profile domestic violence, child abuse, rape and homicide cases.

Last month, she became an appointed faculty member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Commission on Capital Education. Through the National Judicial College, Ms. Smith is engaged in the training of Pennsylvania judges and the preparation of a bench book of capital litigation.

Ballard Spahr reports that Thomas B. Roberts and the firm's pro bono immigration team were honored recently by the HIAS & Council Migration Service of Philadelphia for their outstanding and

committed pro bono support. HIAS is a non-profit agency serving the immigrant community in Philadelphia.

With the development of Ballard's Asylum & Immigration Program, Ballard Spahr has been providing increased support to HIAS over the past four years. Mr. Roberts has been at the forefront of the Ballard Spahr Asylum & Immigration Program, spearheading at least ten different cases referred to Ballard by HIAS. His services included leading a team of Ballard attorneys representing elderly Russian immigrants whose Social Security benefits had been suspended because the government failed to finalize their naturalization papers in a timely manner. Using his knowledge of the immigration system, Mr. Roberts was able to get the attention of immigration authorities to resolve his clients' plight.

Mr. Roberts is supported in his immigration pro bono work by Shereen Chen, the leader of Ballard Spahr's immigration practice, and more than 20 volunteer attorneys.